

§51.1270

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§51.1270 Packing.

(a) Each package shall be packed so that the pears in the shown face shall be reasonably representative in size and quality of the contents of the package.

(b) Pears packed in any container shall be tightly packed. All packages shall be well filled but the contents shall not show excessive or unnecessary bruising because of overfilled packages.

(c) Pears packed in boxes shall be arranged in containers according to the approved and recognized methods with the pears packed lengthwise. A bridge shall not be allowed in any standard pack. When wrapped, each pear shall be fairly well enclosed by its individual wrapper.

(d) Pears packed in round stave bushel baskets, tubs or in barrels shall be ring faced.

§51.1271 Tolerances for standard pack.

(a) In order to allow for variations incident to proper sizing, not more than 5 percent of the pears in any lot may fail to meet the size requirements: *Provided*, That when the maximum and minimum sizes are both stated, an additional 10 percent tolerance shall be allowed for pears which are larger than the maximum size stated.

(b) In order to allow for variations incident to proper packing, not more than 10 percent of the containers in any lot may fail to meet these requirements, but no part of this tolerance shall be allowed for bridge packs, or for packs with different sizes and arrangements such as layers of 195 size and arrangement, and layers of 180 size and arrangement packed in the same box.

DEFINITIONS

§51.1272 Mature.

(a) *Mature* means that the pear has reached the stage of maturity which will insure the proper completion of the ripening process.

(b) Before a mature pear becomes overripe it will show varying degrees of firmness, depending upon the stage of the ripening process. Therefore, a statement of firmness should be given in order to indicate the stage of the

ripening process. A description of the ground color should also be given.

(1) The following terms should be used for describing the ground color: *Green, Light Green, Yellowish Green, and Yellow.*

(2) The following terms should be used for describing the firmness of pears:

(i) *Hard* means that the flesh of the pear is solid and does not yield appreciably even to considerable pressure.

(ii) *Firm* means that the flesh of the pear is fairly solid but yields somewhat to moderate pressure.

(iii) *Firm ripe* means that the flesh of the pear yields readily to moderate pressure.

(iv) *Ripe* means that the pear is at the stage where it is in its most desirable condition for eating.

§51.1273 Overripe.

Overripe means dead ripe, very mealy or soft, past commercial utility.

§51.1274 Carefully hand-picked.

Carefully hand-picked means that the pears do not show evidence of rough handling or of having been on the ground.

§51.1275 Clean.

Clean means free from excessive dirt, dust, spray residue or other foreign material.

§51.1276 Black end.

Black end is evidenced by an abnormally deep green color around the calyx, or black spots usually occurring on the one-third of the surface nearest to the calyx, or by an abnormally shallow calyx cavity.

§51.1277 Fairly well formed.

Fairly well formed means that the pear may be slightly abnormal in shape but not to an extent which detracts materially from the appearance of the fruit.

§51.1278 Damage.

Damage means any injury or defect which materially affects the appearance, or the edible or shipping quality.

(a) Hard end shall be considered as damage if the pear shows a distinctly constricted protrusion at the blossom

end, or an abnormally yellow color at the blossom end, or an abnormally smooth rounded base with little or no depression at the calyx, or if the flesh near the calyx is abnormally dry and tough or woody.

(b) Slight handling bruises and package bruises such as are incident to good commercial handling in the preparation of a tight pack shall not be considered damage.

(c) Any pear with one skin break larger than three-sixteenths inch in diameter or depth, or with more than one skin break one-eighth inch or larger in diameter or depth shall be considered damaged, and scored against the grade tolerance.²

(1) Small inconspicuous skin breaks, less than one-eighth inch in diameter or depth, shall not be considered damage. In addition, not more than 15 percent of the pears in any container may have not more than one skin break from one-eighth inch to three-sixteenths inch, inclusive, in diameter or depth.²

(d) Russetting which exceeds the following shall be considered as damage:

(1) On all varieties excessively rough russetting (russetting which shows "frogging" or slight cracking) when the aggregate area exceeds one-half inch in diameter.²

(2) On Bartlett and other smooth-skinned varieties, slightly rough russetting, or thick russetting such as is characteristic of frost injury, when the aggregate area exceeds three-fourths inch in diameter.²

(3) On Bartlett and other smooth-skinned varieties, smooth solid or smooth netlike russetting when the aggregate area exceeds 15 percent of the surface.

(4) On Hardy, Sand and other similar varieties, rough or thick russetting such as is characteristic of frost injury, when the aggregate area exceeds three-fourths inch in diameter. On any of these varieties any amount of characteristic russetting is permitted whether due to natural causes such as weather or stimulated by artificial means; leaf whips or light limbrubs

which resemble and blend into russeted areas shall be considered as russet.²

(e) Any one of the following defects or any combination thereof, the seriousness of which exceeds the maximum allowed for any one defect, shall be considered as damage:

(1) Any limbrubs which are cracked, softened, or more than slightly depressed.

(2) Black discoloration caused by limbrubs, which exceeds an aggregate area of three-eighths inch in diameter.²

(3) Dark brown discoloration or excessive roughness caused by limbrubs which exceeds an aggregate area of one-half inch in diameter.²

(4) Slightly rough, light colored discoloration caused by limbrubs which exceeds an aggregate area of three-fourths inch in diameter.²

(5) Smooth, light colored discoloration caused by limbrubs which exceeds an aggregate area of 1 inch in diameter.²

(6) Hail marks or other similar depressions or scars which are not shallow or superficial, or where the injury affects an aggregate area of more than three-eighths inch in diameter.²

(7) Drought spot when more than one in number, or when the external injury exceeds an aggregate area of three-eighths inch in diameter, or when the appearance of the flesh is materially affected by corky tissue or brownish discoloration.²

(8) Sunburn or sprayburn where the skin is blistered, cracked, or shows any light tan or brownish color, or the shape of the pear is appreciably flattened, or the flesh is appreciably softened or changed in color, except that sprayburn of a russet character shall be considered under the definition of russetting.

(9) Insects: (i) More than two healed codling moth stings, or any insect sting which is over three thirty-seconds of an inch in diameter, or other insect stings affecting the appearance to an equal extent.²

(ii) Blister mite or canker worm injury which is not shallow or superficial, or where the injury affects an aggregate area of more than three-eighths inch in diameter.²

²The area refers to that of a circle of the specified diameter.

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(10) Disease: (i) Scab spots which are black and which cover an aggregate area of more than one-fourth inch in diameter except that scab spots of a russet character shall be considered under the definition of russetting.

(ii) Sooty blotch which is thinly scattered over more than 5 percent of the surface, or dark, heavily concentrated spots which affect an area of more than three-eighths inch in diameter.²

§51.1279 Seriously misshapen.

Seriously misshapen means that the pear is excessively flattened or elongated for the variety, or is constricted or deformed so it will not cut three fairly uniform good quarters, or is so badly misshapen that the appearance is seriously affected.

§51.1280 Serious damage.

Serious damage means any injury or defect which seriously affects the appearance, or the edible or shipping quality.

(a) Russetting which in the aggregate exceeds the following shall be considered as serious damage:

(1) On all varieties, excessively rough russetting (russetting which shows "frogging" or slight cracking) when the aggregate area exceeds three-fourths inch in diameter.²

(2) On all varieties, thick russetting such as is characteristic of frost injury, 15 percent of the surface.

(b) Any one of the following defects or combination thereof, the seriousness of which exceeds the maximum allowed for any one defect, shall be considered as serious damage:

(1) Limbrubs which are more than slightly cracked, or excessively rough limbrubs or dark brown or black discoloration caused by limbrubs which exceeds an aggregate area of three-fourths inch in diameter. Other limbrubs which affect an aggregate area of more than one-tenth of the surface.²

(2) Hail marks or other similar depressions or scars which affect an aggregate area of more than three-fourths inch in diameter, or which materially deform or disfigure the fruit.²

²The area refers to that of a circle of the specified diameter.

(3) Drought spot when more than two in number, or where the external injury affects an aggregate area of more than three-fourths inch in diameter, or when the appearance of the flesh is seriously affected by corky tissue or brownish discoloration.²

(4) Sunburn or sprayburn where the skin is blistered, cracked or shows any brownish color, or where the shape of the pear is materially flattened, or the flesh is softened or materially changed in color, except that sprayburn of a russet character shall be considered under the definition of russetting.

(5) Insects: (i) Worm holes. More than three healed codling moth stings, of which not more than two may be over three thirty-seconds of an inch in diameter, or other insect stings affecting the appearance to an equal extent.²

(ii) Blister mite or canker worm injury which affects an aggregate area of more than three-fourths inch in diameter or which materially deforms or disfigures the fruit.²

(6) Disease: (i) Scab spots which are black and which cover an aggregate area of more than one-half inch in diameter, except that scab spots of a russet character shall be considered under the definition of russetting.²

(ii) Sooty blotch which is thinly scattered over more than 15 percent of the surface, or dark, heavily concentrated spots which affect an area of more than three-fourths inch in diameter.²

Subpart—United States Standards for Winter Pears¹

SOURCE: 20 FR 5752, Aug. 10, 1955, unless otherwise noted. Redesignated at 42 FR 32514, June 27, 1977, and further redesignated at 46 FR 63203, Dec. 31, 1981.

GENERAL

§51.1300 General.

These standards apply to varieties such as Anjou, Bosc, Winter Nelis, Comice, Flemish Beauty and other similar varieties.

¹Packing of the product in conformity with the requirements of these standards shall not excuse failure to comply with the provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.